

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 HA-05 TRSE-00 /086 W  
-----001330 201249Z /64

R 192050Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7952  
INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO  
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, BR  
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE FIGUEIREDO LEAVES SNI JOB  
AND GIVES FIRST PRESS CONFERENCE

1. SUMMARY: GENERAL FIGUEIREDO LEFT JOB AS CHIEF OF  
NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (SNI) ON JUNE 15 AND GAVE  
FIRST PRESS CONFERENCE, TOUCHING ON SUCH TOPICS AS LABOR  
RELATIONS, HUMAN RIGHTS, CAMPAIGN DISSIDENTS AND GOB  
FOREIGN RELATIONS. END SUMMARY

2. IN HIS FIRST OPEN PRESS "CONFERENCE" (AS OPPOSED TO  
ORCHESTRATED PRESS INTERVIEWS IN PAST), GENERAL FIGUEIREDO  
OFFICIALLY CHANGED ROLES JUNE 15 FROM CHIEF OF SNI AND  
MEMBER OF PRESIDENT GEISEL'S HOUSEHOLD TO ARENA PRESIDENTIAL  
CANDIDATE. HE GRANTED 15-MINUTE PRESS CONFERENCE AT  
PLANALTO PALACE SHORTLY BEFORE GENERAL OCTAVIO AGUIAR DE  
MEDEIROS WAS SWORN IN BY PRESIDENT GEISEL AS NEW SNI CHIEF.  
FIGUEIREDO TOUCHED ON FOLLOWING TOPICS:

3. LABOR LAWS: REFERRING TO THE RECENT SAO PAULO  
STRIKES, FIGUEIREDO STATED THAT IN FUTURE STRIKES  
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WOULD BE DEALT WITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH NEW LEGISLA-  
TION WHICH HE STATED IS CURRENTLY BEING DRAFTED. AS  
TO HIS OWN LABOR PROGRAM, FIGUEIREDO ADDED THAT HE HAD  
NO PLANS TO ALTER PRESENT LABOR-MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS,  
BUT THAT DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT BE ONE POSSIBLE  
SOLUTION TO THE PRESENT SITUATION.

4. HUMAN RIGHTS: FIGUEIREDO MAINTAINED THAT BRAZIL ALWAYS RECOGNIZED AND SUBSCRIBED TO HUMAN RIGHTS, AND THAT IF THERE WERE AUTHORITIES WHO HAVE FAILED TO PERFORM THEIR DUTIES WITH RESPECT TO THESE RIGHTS, THEY SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM OFFICE. HE ADDED: "I KNOW OF MANY AUTHORITIES WHO HAVE BEEN ACCUSED UNJUSTLY BECAUSE OF THE GUILT OF THEIR SUBORDINATES, AND SOMETIMES (ARE ACCUSED) WITHOUT ANY GUILT AT ALL. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT WE WILL USE FORCE IN ORDER THAT HUMAN RIGHTS ARE RESPECTED. BUT IT IS NECESSARY, ABOVE ALL, THAT JUSTICE BE DONE, THAT NOBODY IS ACCUSED OBSCURELY, WITHOUT REASONS."

5. PARTY LOYALTY: "PART LOYALTY SHOULD BE MAINTAINED. IF A CONVENTION CHOOSES A CANDIDATE, THE PARTY SHOULD VOTE FOR THAT CANDIDATE. THOSE WHO DID NOT AGREE WITH THAT CANDIDACY SHOULD HAVE SPOKEN WITH THEIR VOTES AT THE PARTY CONVENTION." IF THE MAJORITY WILL WERE NOT ACCEPTED, FIGUEIREDO ADDED, THERE COULD BE NO FREE ELECTIONS ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD THAT COULD BE CONSIDERED VALID. THE MINORITY WOULD ALWAYS BE IN A STATE OF REBELLION. IN A TV-GLOBO INTERVIEW GIVEN THE SAME DAY, FIGUEIREDO RESPONDED TO A QUESTION CONCERNING SENATOR MAGALHAES PINTO'S REFUSAL TO SUPPORT THE ARENA CONVENTION'S RATIFICATION OF FIGUEIREDO'S PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY BY CALLING PARTY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DISLOYALTY "A KIND OF TREASON."

6. ARMED FORCES DISSIDENCE: FIGUEIREDO STATED THAT HE DID NOT SEE ANY OPPOSITION--THAT IS, SUPPORT FOR THE EMBRYONIC FRONT FOR REDEMOCRATIZATION--WITHIN THE ARMED FORCES, THIS QUESTION WAS, HOWEVER, NOT WITHIN HIS SCOPE OF AUTHORITY, HE SAID, BUT WAS THE CONCERN OF THE ARMED FORCES CHIEF OF STAFF AND THE MILITARY MINISTERS. HE DISMISSED AN ALLEGATION THAT POTENTIAL OPPOSITION CANDIDACY OF RETIRED GENERAL EULER BENTES MONTEIRO MIGHT SOW DISCORD WITHIN ARMED FORCES, SUGGESTING THAT GENERAL EULER COULD BEST RESPOND TO THAT QUESTION.

7. FOREIGN AFFAIRS: ONE QUESTIONER SUGGESTED THAT PRESIDENT GEISEL HAD BROKEN PREVIOUS POLITICAL DOGMAS BY ESTABLISHMENT OF GOB RELATIONS WITH PRC, BY SUPPORTING ANGOLAN REVOLUTION, AND BY ADOPTING INDEPENDENT (FROM US) STANCE ON NUCLEAR AND ANTI-ZIONIST ISSUES. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, THE QUESTIONER CLAIMED THAT PRIORITY RELATIONS WITH BRAZIL'S NEIGHBORS IN SOUTH AMERICAN HAD SUFFERED A NUMBER OF SETBACKS. FIGUEIREDO RESPONDED THAT IT WAS NOT THE GOB'S

FAULT IF RELATIONS WITH BRAZIL'S NEIGHBORS HAD SUFFERED. HE OPINED THAT RELATIONS WITH THE REST OF SOUTH AMERICA WERE BASICALLY GOOD, EVEN THOUGH THERE WERE TEMPORARY MISUNDERSTANDINGS. AS FOR THE PRC OPENING, IT WAS ONLY LOGICAL FOR BRAZIL TO ESTABLISH RELATONS WITH CHINA, WITH 900 MILLION PEOPLE, THE SAME AS WITH OTHER SOCIALIST BLOC COUNTRIES. HE ADDED: YOU WILL TELL ME THAT CHINA IS NOT A PART OF THE SOCIALIST BLOC, BUT ITS IDEOLOGY IS THE SAME. BUT IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE THERE IS NO IDEOLOGY."

8. ESTABLISHMENT OF CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS: FIGUEIREDO JOKED THAT IF A CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS WAS NOT SOON ARRANGED FOR HIM, HE MIGHT BE FORCED TO TAKE A VACATION, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHICH HE HAD NOT DONE FOR 15 YEARS. HIS PLANS TO SPEAK TO THE NATION FROM THAT OFFICE (PREVIOUSLY REPORTED AS THE ARACOARA HOTEL IN BRASILIA ON JUNE 29) WERE AS YET UNCERTAIN. FIGUEIREDO VENTURED THAT THE DATE MIGHT BE JULY 3. IN THE LAST ANALYSIS, HOWEVER, HE HAD THE OPTION OF TEMPORARY OFFICE SPACE AT THE PLANALTO.

9. COMMENT: JORNAL DO BRASIL (JUNE 15) REPORTED THAT FIGUEIREDO WAS VISIBLY NERVOUS WHEN HANDLING EARLY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE RIGHT TO STRIKE AND HUMAN RIGHTS, BUT THAT HIS GENERAL DELIVERY WAS CALM, NATURAL, AND POSITIVE. HIS ONLY HESITANCY CAME ON HIS RESPONSE TO THE INQUIRY ABOUT THE UNEVENNESS OF BRAZIL'S RELATIONS WITH HER NEIGHBORS, UPON WHICH HE WAS RELUCTANT TO ELABORATE PUBLICLY. SAYRE

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS CONFERENCES, ELECTION CANDIDATES, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BRASIL04807  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**TAGS:** PINT, PGOV, BR, (FIGUEIREDO, JOAO BAPTISTA DE O)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014